



THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

# Predictors of Adaptive Behavior in Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder

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# Adaptive Behavior in Adolescence



Communication

Daily Living Skills

Socialization

# Objectives

- Describe the communication, daily living, and socialization adaptive behavior profiles in adolescents with ASD in the school context
- Examine the extent to which IQ and autism symptoms predicted adaptive behavior profiles in adolescents with ASD





# Methods

- 547 high school students with ASD
- 60 high schools
  - North Carolina
  - Wisconsin
  - California

Variable	Measure
Nonverbal IQ	Leiter-3 BRIEF IQ (Roid, Miller, Pomplun, & Koch, 2013)
Autism symptoms	Social Responsiveness Scale-2 Teacher Report (Constantino & Gruber, 2012)
Adaptive behavior	Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales-II Teacher Form (Sparrow et al., 2005)

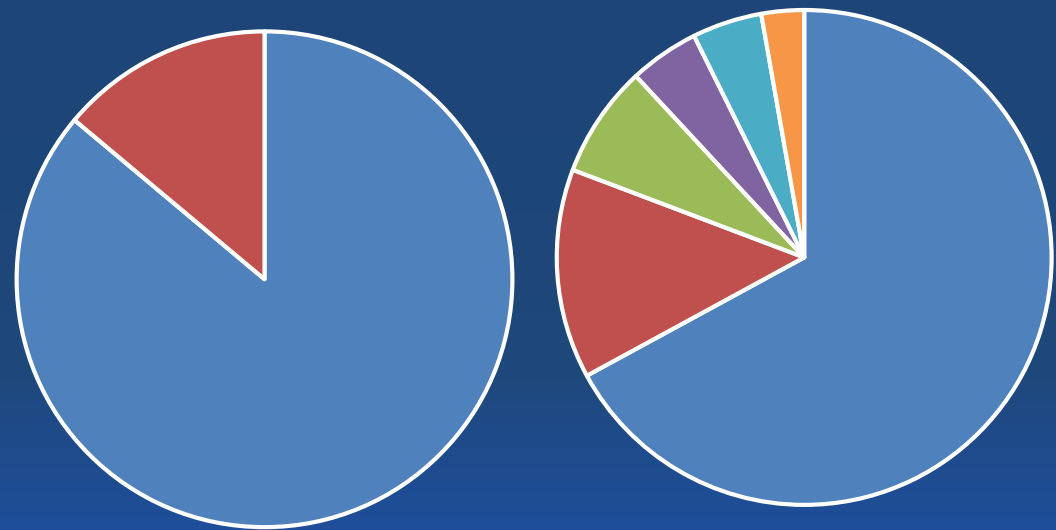
# Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales- Teacher Report

Domain	Description
<i>Communication</i>	
Receptive	What student understands
Expressive	How student uses spoken language
Written	What student reads and writes
<i>Daily Living Skills</i>	
Personal	How student dresses, eats and prepares food, and uses personal hygiene
<b>Academic</b>	<b>What student understands about time, money, and math</b>
<b>School Community</b>	<b>How student follows rules, uses routines, and focuses in the classroom</b>
<i>Socialization</i>	
Interpersonal Relationships	How student interacts with peers
Play and Leisure	How student uses leisure time
Coping Skills	How student demonstrates sensitivity to others and responsibility



# Participant Characteristics

	Mean(SD)	Range
Age	16.2(1.44)	14-21
Nonverbal IQ	85.5(27.2)	30-141
Autism symptoms	70.4(12.2)	39-110

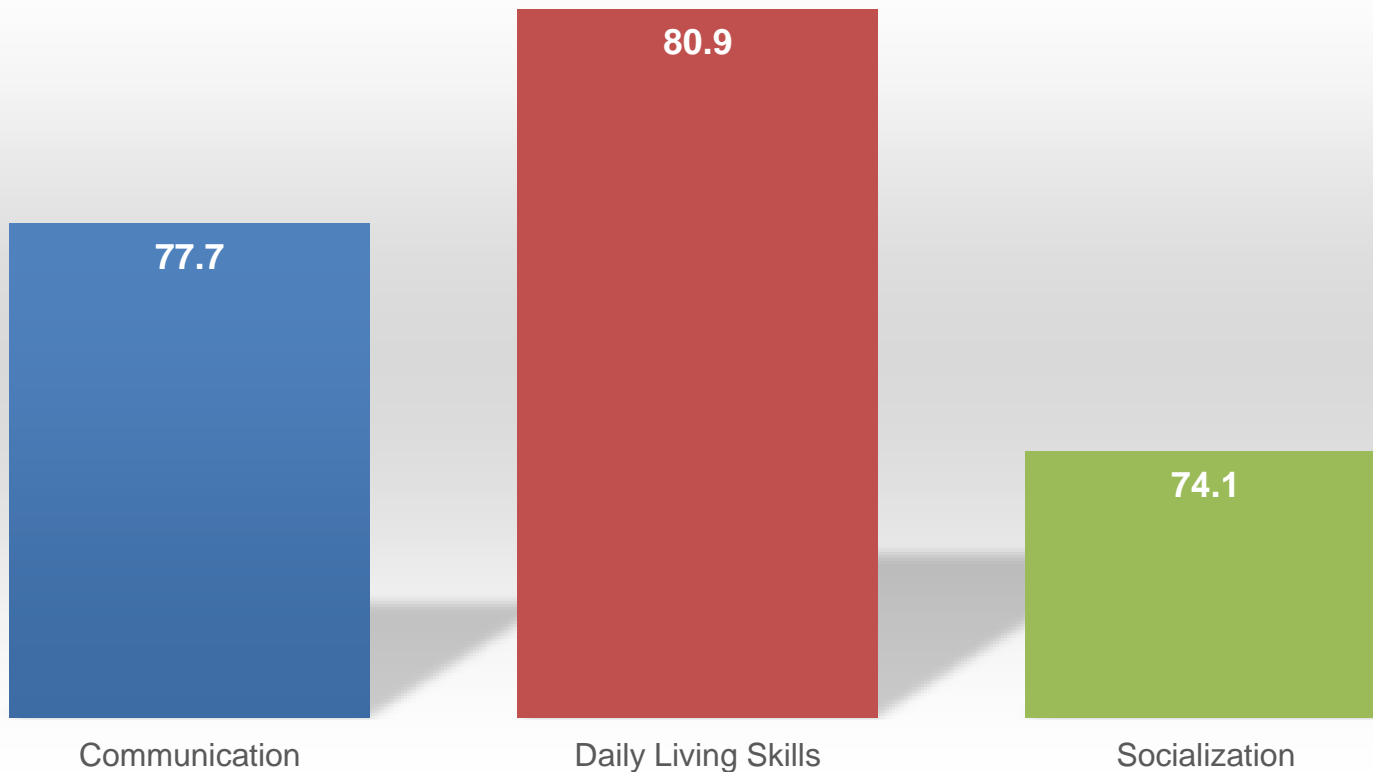


□ Male □ Female

□ White  
 □ Black/African American  
 □ Multi  
 □ Asian  
 □ Other  
 □ American Indian

# Results

## Adaptive Behavior Profile

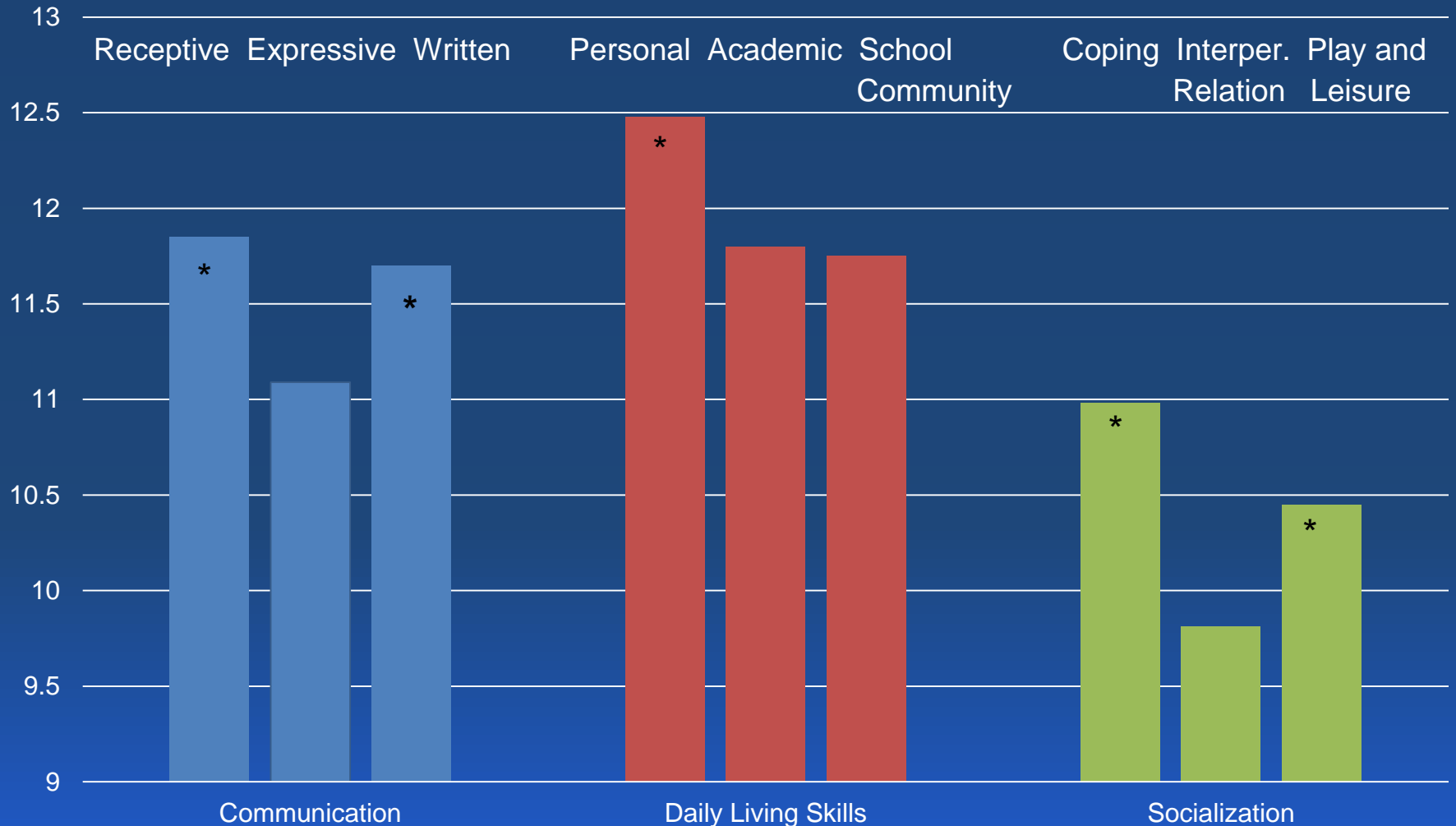


$F(2, 463) = 76.4, p < .001, \eta^2 = .25$

**All domains significantly lower than IQ of 85.5**

# Results

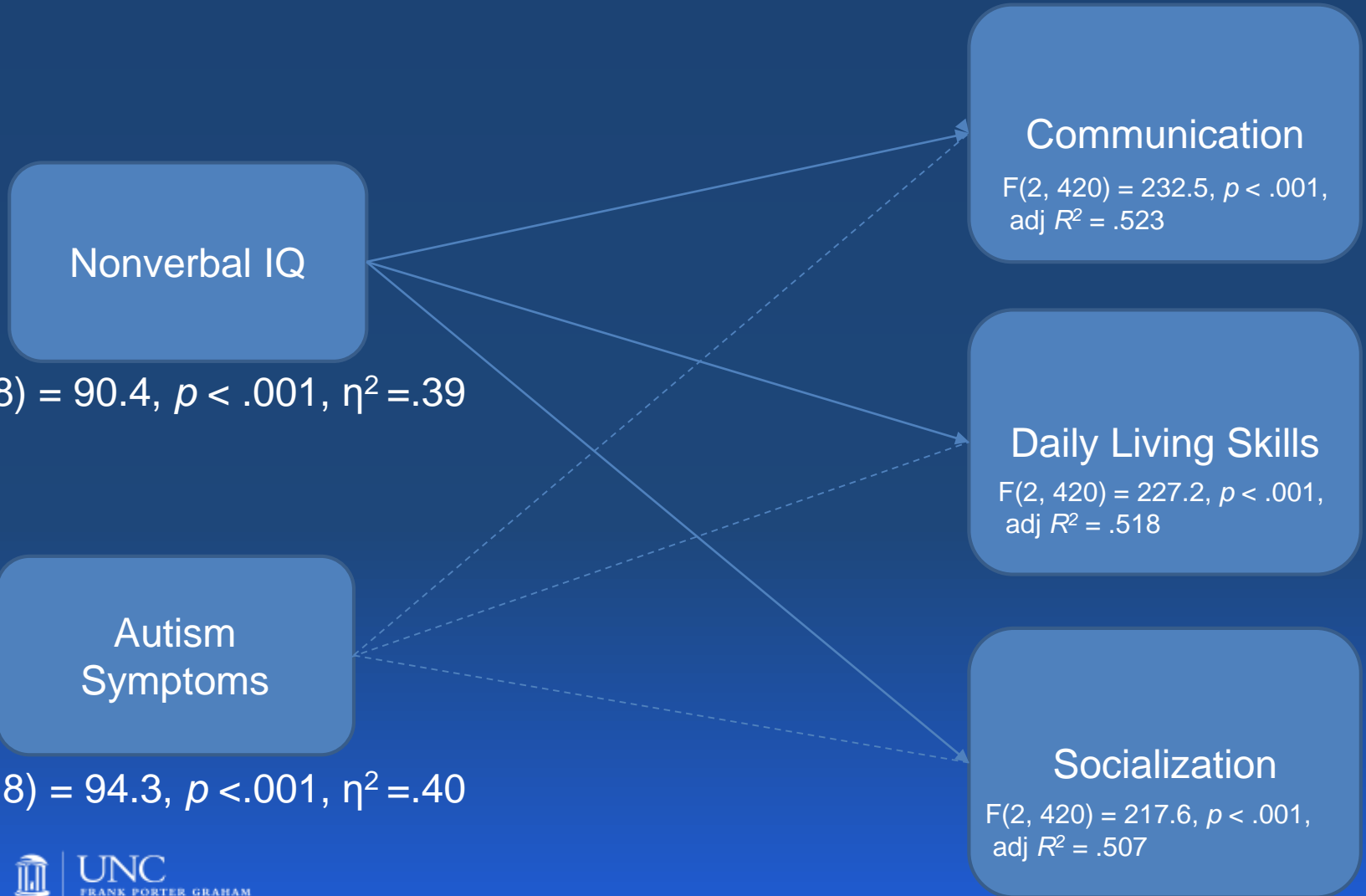
## Adaptive Behavior Profile





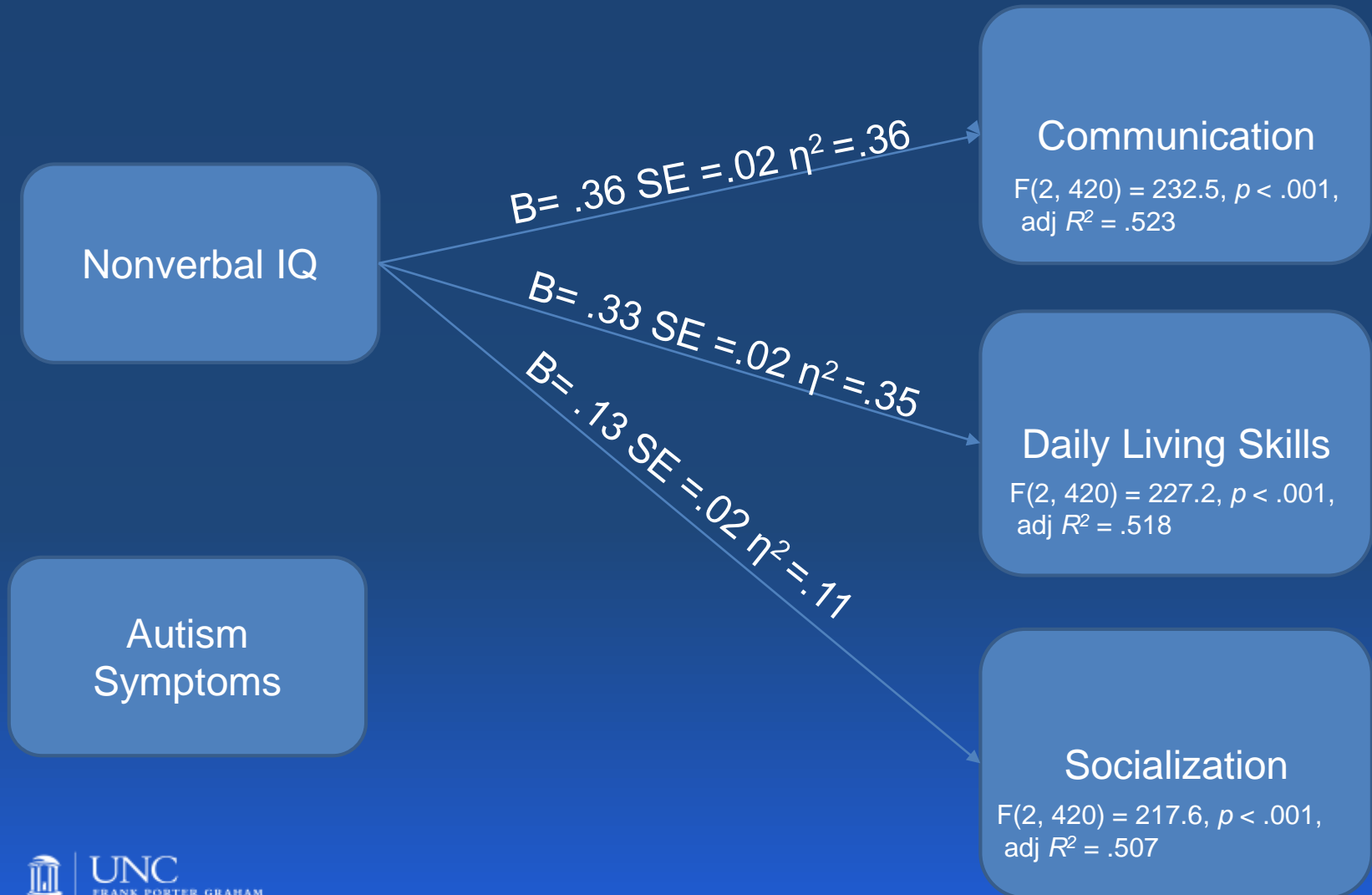
# Results

## Predictors of Adaptive Behavior



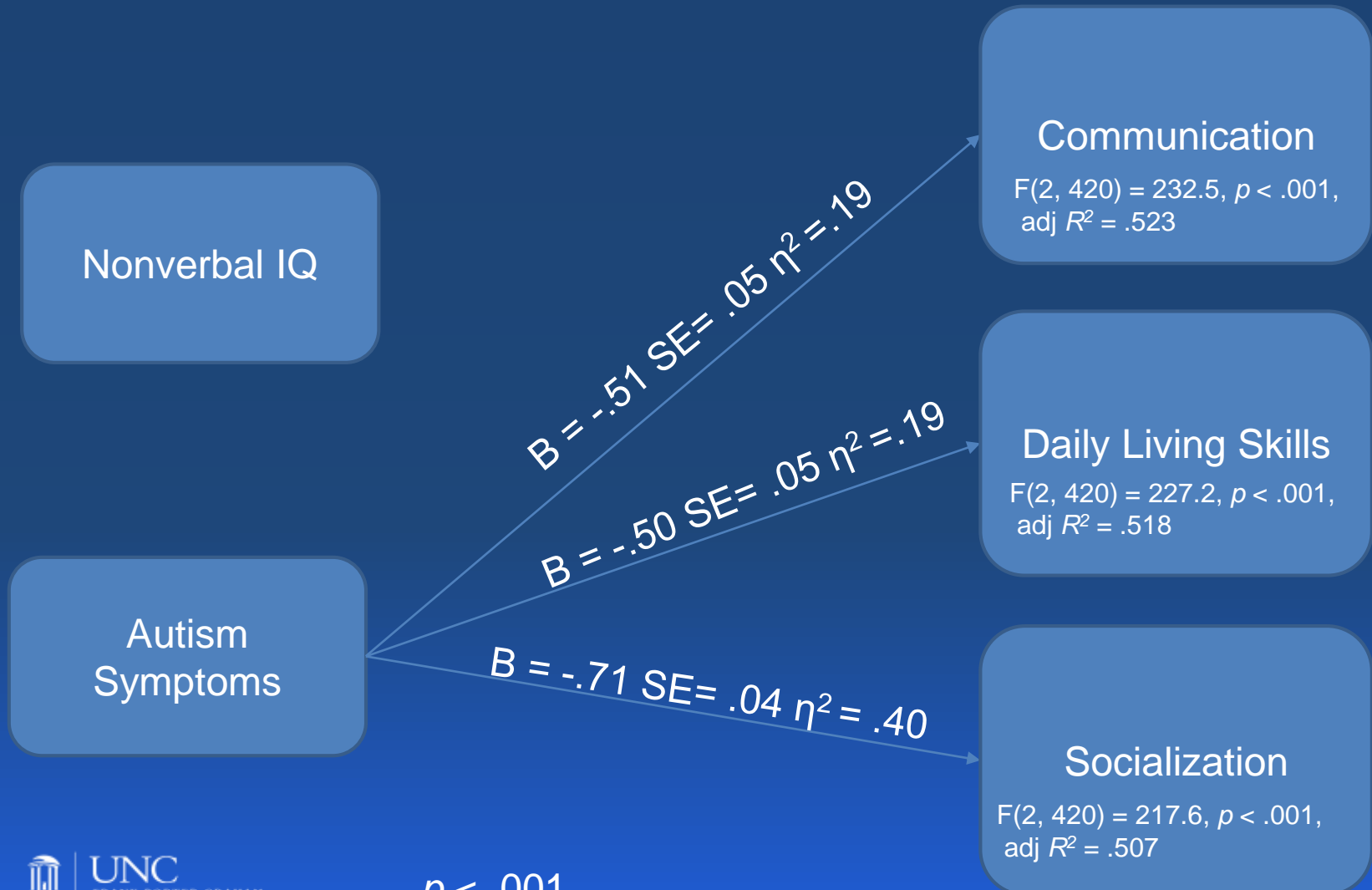
# Results

## Predictors of Adaptive Behavior

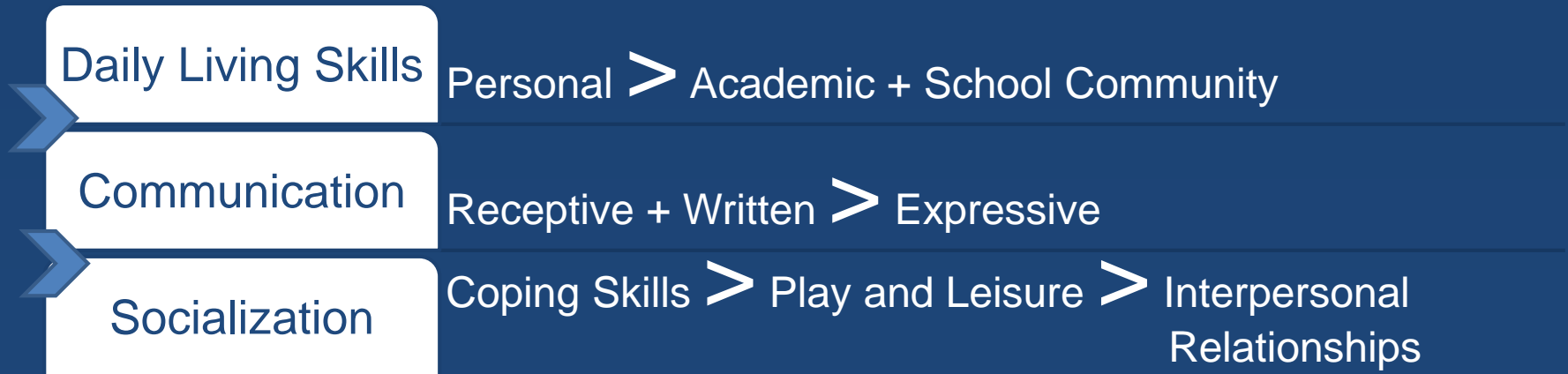


# Results

## Predictors of Adaptive Behavior



# Conclusions



# Next Steps

- Characterization of classes of change in adaptive behavior in the individuals who were receiving services as usual across two years of high school (N=244)

	<b>Moderately Low and Growth M (N=213)</b>	<b>Low and No Growth M (N=31)</b>
Age at enrollment	16.3	17.1
IQ	88.8	50.2
Autism symptoms	68.7	81.0

# Next Steps

School  
Quality



Adaptive  
Behavior

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